

The 6 Principles for Exemplary Teaching of English Learners: Grades K-12

Discussion Questions for Chapter 5 - Establishing a Culture of Shared Responsibility

1. Based on your role, which of the 6 Principles do you currently feel prepared to attain, working with others in your school or district in a culture of shared responsibility for the education of English learners? For which principles do you need further professional development in order to perform the possible actions listed in this chapter?
2. What specific actions does your school or district most need to take to attain the full realization of the 6 Principles? How might the School Improvement Team use this book to form a three-year action plan to improve services for language learners and their families? Keep the spirit of shared responsibility for English learners in mind to ensure that the team draws upon the skills of a range of school- or district-based professionals, according to their specializations and roles. (Perhaps begin with suggestions offered in this chapter.)
3. How can ESL/ELD and bilingual specialists in your district best support specific personnel named in this chapter? How might they assist others who routinely come in contact with English learners or their families (e.g., school nurse, bus drivers, cafeteria workers)?
4. Are there specific language learning populations in your district for whom the 6 Principles are less well realized? What steps might you take now to address inconsistencies or gaps in program delivery?
5. As English learner populations change in your district, how might you need to revisit the 6 Principles?
6. What other ideas emerged as you read this chapter, in terms of additional ways you can assist in fulfilling the 6 Principles?